

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01

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R 011216Z JUL 75

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9169

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USDEL MTN GENEVA

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSH HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, EEC

SUBJECT: FINNISH FREE TRADE AREAS WITH EASTERN COUNTRIES

REF: A) GENEVA 4963 B) STATE 143319

1. ON JUNE 30 WE DISCUSSED THE COMMUNITY POSITION ON THE FINNISH
TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WITH KLEIN,
THE EC COMMISSION DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR RELATIONS WITH
EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. KLEIN SAID THAT HE CONTINUED TO
FEEL THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT TO TAKE THE HUNGARIAN AGREEMENT
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LAST. HOWEVER, HE THEN NOTED THAT TACTICAL DECISIONS

WOULD BE LEFT TO LUYTEN WHO WAS BETTER ABLE TO ASSESS THE PROSPECTS IN GENEVA, AND IMMEDIATELY TELEPHONED LUYTEN. LUYTEN'S POSITION, AS RELAYED BY KLEIN, IS AS FOLLOWS: A) THE COMMUNITY SHOULD MAKE ONE LAST EFFORT TO HAVE THE HUNGARIAN AGREEMENT TAKEN UP LAST. HOWEVER, IN LUYTEN'S VIEW, THERE WAS LITTLE CHANCE OF AGREEMENT TO THIS: B) AS A FALLBACK, THE COMMUNITY SHOULD INSIST ON CONSIDERATION OF ALL THREE AGREEMENTS WITHIN A BRIEF TIME FRAME--A WEEK OR 10 DAYS: C) THE COMMUNITY SHOULD ATTEMPT TO ACHIEVE ITS SUBSTANTIVE DESIRE, THAT THE EXAMINATION OF THE HUNGARIAN AGREEMENT BE CONCLUDED LAST, BY INSISTING AT SOME STAGE IN THE EXAMINATION OF THAT AGREEMENT THAT THE EXAMINATION HAD TO BE SUSPENDED FOR SOME REASON OR OTHER. THE COMMUNITY SHOULD THEN PUSH FOR COMPLETION OF THE EXAMINATIONS OF THE CZECH AND BULGARIAN AGREEMENTS SO THAT THE CONCLUSIONS IN THESE CASES WOULD PRECEDE RATHER THAN SUCCEED THE CONCLUSIONS IN THE HUNGARIAN CASE.

2. KLEIN AGREED WITH US THAT THESE TACTICS WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO FOLLOW. HOWEVER, HE INDICATED THAT THE MATTER RESTED IN LUYTEN'S HANDS.

3. COMMENT: THE MISSION DOES NOT THINK THAT THE BASIC EC PREFERENCES IN THIS MATTER HAVE CHANGED. HOWEVER, THE EC, RELYING ON THE ADVICE OF ITS GATT EXPERT, LUYTEN, DOES NOT FEEL THAT AN EFFORT TO INSIST ON DELAYING CONSIDERATION OF THE HUNGARIAN AGREEMENT CAN SUCCEED. (THE COMMUNITY WOULD FIND IT EMBARRASSING TO INSIST TOO MUCH ON THIS POINT IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT IT EARLIER INSISTED ON CONSIDERATION OF THE EC-SWITZERLAND AGREEMENT BEFORE THE OTHER EC-EFTA AGREEMENTS, DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE SWISS AGREEMENT WAS NOT CHRONOLOGICALLY FIRST.) THE COMMUNITY THEREFORE DOES NOT INTEND TO FIGHT MUCH MORE OVER THIS ISSUE, BUT WILL, IF POSSIBLE, SEEK TO ARRANGE THAT THE HUNGARIAN CONCLUSIONS COME LAST. GREENWALD

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